



Brink Productions

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Brink Productions leads the way in SA with live captioning

South Australian theatre company Brink Productions is extending the realms of new technology, becoming the first company in the state to provide live captioning for its latest production, *Harbinger*, premiering in Adelaide on Tuesday 31st August at Space Theatre.

Go-Theatrical!™ captioning by the Captioning Studio will be employed for two of the Adelaide shows and is designed to caption live performances, enabling hearing-impaired patrons, or those who do not have English as their first language, to better engage with the performance..

Brink Productions is able to offer this service, as part of its wider access program, with the very generous assistance of Arts SA and the Adelaide Festival Centre. Having made a significant investment in screens and the associated hardware and equipment necessary for the captioning display, the Adelaide Festival Centre has made it easier for other South Australian companies to also provide a captioning service for disadvantaged patrons.

Two performances of *Harbinger* will be captioned on September 4th - the matinee at 2.30pm and the evening show at 7.30pm.

Kay Jamieson, Brink Productions' Executive Producer, is very excited about using the technology to offer this service to disadvantaged patrons. "There is a real need for live captioning in live performance. We are thrilled to be able to provide this opportunity for our audiences and to be the first South Australian theatre company to utilize the service. This technology means that hearing impaired patrons don't have to miss out – they are able to fully enjoy the theatrical experience Brink Productions offers," she said.

Through the use of live captioning, words spoken by the actors, as well as any sound effects, are displayed on a large screen whilst the performance is taking place. A highly skilled team of captioners carefully prepare the captions in advance of the performance and then work behind the scenes via a phone line and the internet to display the captions, along with any minor changes that may come with the live performance, on plasma screens as the words are being spoken.

As well as captioned performances Brink Productions will host a pre-show briefing for visually-impaired patrons attending the *Harbinger* performance on Thursday 9th September. This pre-show briefing allows visually-impaired patrons an opportunity to have the set, props and costumes described to them before the show, to hear the voice of each actor and a description of the character they play and, where possible, to feel textures and shapes of costumes and props.

ENDS

Notes to the editor

Brink Productions' *Harbinger* has its world premiere on August 31 at Space Theatre and plays through to 11 September. *Harbinger* is Brink Productions newest work and is directed by Chris Drummond, written by Matthew Whittet and stars Nathan O'Keefe, Alex Menglet and Yael Stone.

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